

SECRET

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STAT 1. [] Met with Nick Zaple on the staff of the Senate Commerce Committee in company with Jack Leahy of State. Also present were Mr. Dean representing Navy and an individual from Henry Ford's office in State. Zaple advised that a letter had gone forward from Senator Magnuson to Senator Fulbright requesting referral of S. 3252 to the Commerce Committee from Senate Foreign Relations. However, Zaple stated there was no reason why this should cause any interference since Foreign Relations could go ahead with their action but that the Commerce Committee in executive session had felt that any amendments to the Communications Act must be considered by that Committee. Leahy explained the general background of the bill and the problems associated with it. There was carefully explained the dilemma of presenting full information in open statements which Zaple appeared to understand. He raised questions as to whether or not full agreement had been secured within the Executive Branch and also raised the question of whether commercial carriers would raise any objection. Zaple indicated full cooperation from the Commerce Committee ^{on} and the security problems raised and rather indicated a view that there would be no difficulties with the bill itself if there were appropriate assurances as to proper procedures to avoid interference problems.